From: Ron Coveney
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 10:51am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement.

The Microsoft Settlement is not enough but a break-up is by far worse. What is needed is that they be regulated as a legal monopoly. This gives the government the ability to respond as needed when issues arise. Further, they could reduce the MS selling prices which has been a sticking spot. With what they pay out in dividends to still have over \$35 billion dollar in cash on hand shows they are over charging. Again break-up is not an option. The problem with the industry was; all the different operating systems prior to DOS and making all their code public just helps hackers. Yes other companies need access to the code but it needs to be controlled and secure, thus regulation.

Ron Coveney